



Town of Lexington
Land Use, Health and Development Department
Office of Public Health
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UPDATE: EMERGENCY SUSPENSION OF NON-ESSENTIAL OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH FUNCTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

WHEREAS, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has declared a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, the Lexington Board of Health has determined that the situation poses a present, reasonable, and imminent danger to public health and the general welfare of the people of Lexington; and

WHEREAS, the Lexington Health Director and Lexington Public Health Nurse are engaged 7 days a week in the effort to protect the public health of the people of Lexington during this emergency, and are 24-hour on-call contacts for local health in Lexington under the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) Region 4AB Public Health Emergency Preparedness structure;

NOW THEREFORE, the Lexington Board of Health hereby authorizes the Lexington Office of Public Health to suspend all non-essential public health activities unrelated to the prevention of the spread of COVID-19 and the work to mitigate the public health impacts of COVID-19. The suspension of non-essential public health activities includes all public health inspections and permitting functions, and nuisance inspections, with the exception of the following*: foodborne illness or food safety complaints, septic system failure associated with current occupants (does not include system failures identified as part of real-estate transactions with no current occupants residing on-site), and housing code complaints associated with conditions deemed to endanger or impair the health and safety of occupants as listed in 105 CMR 410.750. Non-emergency permits (*) will be prioritized based on capacity and guidance from the Commonwealth. In

addition, all public health permits with a date set to expire during this emergency order will be extended and expire 30 days after the day this emergency order is lifted.

This Emergency Order shall remain in effect until notice is given, pursuant to the Lexington Board of Health's judgment, and consideration of state and national guidance, that the Public Health Emergency no longer exists.

*UPDATE, 5/19/20:

The following permit types will also be included in the exceptions to this order, i.e., applications will be accepted for the following permit types:

- Food Establishments
- Public/semi-public swimming pools
- rDNA
- Recreation camps for children

*UPDATE, 3/23/21

Routine Health Department Inspections are allowed as an exception to this Order.



Wendy Heiger-Bernays, PhD, Chair

March 23, 2021

date

DocuSigned by:



Burt Perlmutter, MD

March 23, 2021

date



David Geller, MD

March 23, 2021

date



John J. Flynn, JD

March 23, 2021

date

Susan Wolf-Fordham, JD, MPA

date